

SECRET

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D-R-A-F-T
15 May 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Embassy, Moscow

FROM: Department of State

The Department wishes to take this opportunity to commend the Embassy for the increasing volume of USSR publications that Embassy collectors are forwarding. The Department believes it opportune to describe for the benefit of all Embassy collectors some of the background pertinent to coordinating efforts in Washington, together with examples of the usefulness of these publications to the end-users.

Open literature is a fertile source for the intelligence processes of the U.S. Government. Recognizing this, the intelligence community established in 1953 an Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications on the basis of National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 16. This Directive authorizes and directs the Director of Central Intelligence to:

- a. Coordinate the procurement of foreign publications for use by the departments and agencies of the Government for intelligence purposes.
- b. Provide, as a service of common concern, exploitation and reference services of foreign publications of intelligence interest.
- c. Coordinate such services of common concern with similar activities maintained by the various Governmental agencies without prejudice toward the maintenance of facilities necessary to meet department demands.

The Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications was established to advise and assist the Director of Central Intelligence in the implementation of this directive. The Committee is composed of representatives of the IAC agencies and can invite other interested agencies to sit with it on matters which concern them. Three Subcommittees were established to cover the responsibilities identified in the Directive above: Exploitation, Reference and Procurement.

This paper has been prepared by the Procurement Subcommittee on the basis of information received from the other Subcommittees and from intelligence officers using open literature extensively. It is believed that field collectors of foreign publications would benefit from the knowledge that there is coordination of these activities in Washington and that their collection efforts are both productive and appreciated. In the enclosure are listed selected examples of the use to which foreign publications have been put after receipt from your Embassy.

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

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